

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A safety stirrup comprising:

a generally U-shaped mounting member, and

a generally oval foot support member that extends around ~~for receiving~~ a rider's foot,

such that when the rider's foot is in the normal use position, the foot support member is supported within the generally U-shaped mounting member by at least one mounting comprising a releaseable connection between the generally U-shaped mounting member and the foot support member,

wherein vertically upward movement of the rider's foot out of the normal use position causes vertically upward movement of the foot support member such that the at least one mounting ~~to release~~ releases the foot support member sufficiently that the foot support member can move in the same direction as the rider's foot until the foot support member is fully disconnected from the U-shaped mounting member.

2. (Currently amended) A safety stirrup comprising:

a generally U-shaped mounting member, and

a generally oval foot support member that extends around ~~for receiving~~ a rider's foot,

such that when the rider's foot is in the normal use position, the foot support member is supported within the generally U-shaped mounting member by at least one mounting having at least one projection,

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wherein, during normal use, the at least one projection is located in a recess adjacent the ends of the U-shaped mounting member but vertically upward movement of the rider's foot out of the normal use position causes the at least one mounting to release the foot support member sufficiently that the foot support member can move in the same direction as the rider's foot until the foot support member is fully disconnected from the U-shaped mounting member, the at least one projection moving in a respective recess and rotating in the same direction as the rider's foot prior to the foot support member being fully disconnected from the U-shaped mounting member.

3. (Currently amended) A safety stirrup according to Claim 2 wherein one or more of the mountings comprises at least one additional projection which, when the stirrup is in the normal use position, is received in a complementary shaped recess which restricts movement of the at least one additional projection to vertical and rotational movement.

4. (Currently amended) A safety stirrup according to claim 2 wherein the at least one projection is located on the foot support and is are received in one or more recesses in the U-shaped mounting member.

5. (Withdrawn) A safety stirrup according to Claim 2 wherein the ~~one or more projections are~~ at least one projection is located on the U-shaped mounting member and is are received in one or more recesses in the foot support.

6. (Currently amended) A safety stirrup according to Claim 2 wherein one additional projection is located on one side of the foot support member, and ~~another~~ an additional projection is located

on an opposing side of the foot support member, each additional projection being received in a complementary shaped recess in the U-shaped mounting member.

7. (Withdrawn) A safety stirrup according to Claim 2 wherein one additional projection is located on one arm of the U-shaped mounting member, and ~~another~~ an additional projection is located on the other arm of the U-shaped mounting member, each additional projection being received in a complementary shaped recess on the foot support member.

8. (Previously presented) A safety stirrup according to Claim 2, wherein at least one of the complementary shaped recesses includes an indentation in which an additional projection resides during normal use, but vertical movement of the rider's foot out of the normal use position causes the additional projection to move out of the indentation, releasing the foot support sufficiently that the additional projection can move along a guide and the foot support member can move in the same direction as the rider's foot prior to the foot support being fully disconnected from the U-shaped mounting member.

9. (Previously presented) A safety stirrup according to Claim 2 which further includes a biasing means to resist movement of the at least one projection in a respective recess.

10. (Original) A safety stirrup according to Claim 1 which is constructed of non-metallic material.